

NOTA

First record of *Fistularia petimba* Lacepède, 1803 (Pisces, Fistulariidae) off the coast of Cadiz (southern Iberian Peninsula)

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ABSTRACT

The capture of an individual from the family Fistulariidae (Fistularia petimba Lacepède, 1803) off the coast of Cadiz (southern Iberian Peninsula) during the summer of 1996 is reported. Morphometric and meristic characteristics of this individual are also described.

Palabras clave: Fistulariidae, *Fistularia petimba*, Pisces, Cadiz (Spain), first record.

RESUMEN

Primera cita de *Fistularia petimba* Lacepède, 1803 (Pisces, Fistulariidae) en la costa de Cádiz (sur de la península Ibérica).

Se cita, por primera vez, la presencia de un individuo de la familia Fistulariidae (Fistularia petimba Lacepède, 1803) en la costa de Cádiz (sur de la península Ibérica). Se describen las características morfológicas de este individuo.

Key words: Fistulariidae, *Fistularia petimba*, Pisces, Cádiz (España), primera cita.

Species belonging to the family Fistulariidae are found in tropical waters of the Atlantic, Indian and Pacific oceans (Lindberg, 1974; Nelson, 1976). Their distribution in the East Atlantic is from the Cape Blanc and Cape Verde Islands along the tropical West African coast to Namibia (Fritzsche, 1976, 1981, 1990; Delgado and Santana, 1985; Heemstra, 1986).

The presence of any individual of *Fistularia petimba* Lacepède, 1803, also known as *Fistularia serrata* Cuvier, 1817 and *Fistularia villosa* Klunzinger, 1871 (Blache, Cadenat and Stauch, 1970; Fritzsche, 1981), has not been reported previously for Mediterranean waters (Hureau, 1996; Fredj and Maurin, 1987). Ours is the first record of an

individual from this family to be found at such a high latitude as the southern coast of Iberian Peninsula.

On 23 June 1996, a *Fistularia petimba* specimen was captured 3 km off the coast of La Línea de la Concepción (Cadiz, Spain). The fish was caught at a depth of 50 m (figure 1), by a local fisherman using a gillnet locally known as a *rachera*. The *rachera* is mainly employed in this fishery for catching of *Pagellus acarne* (Risso, 1826) (Sparidae) and *Trachurus trachurus* (Linnaeus, 1758) (Carangidae) (Padillo and Carreiras, 1994). *Fistularia petimba* has no commercial value, but in its natural distribution area it is found in other artisanal fisheries that use similar nets (Fritzsche, 1981).

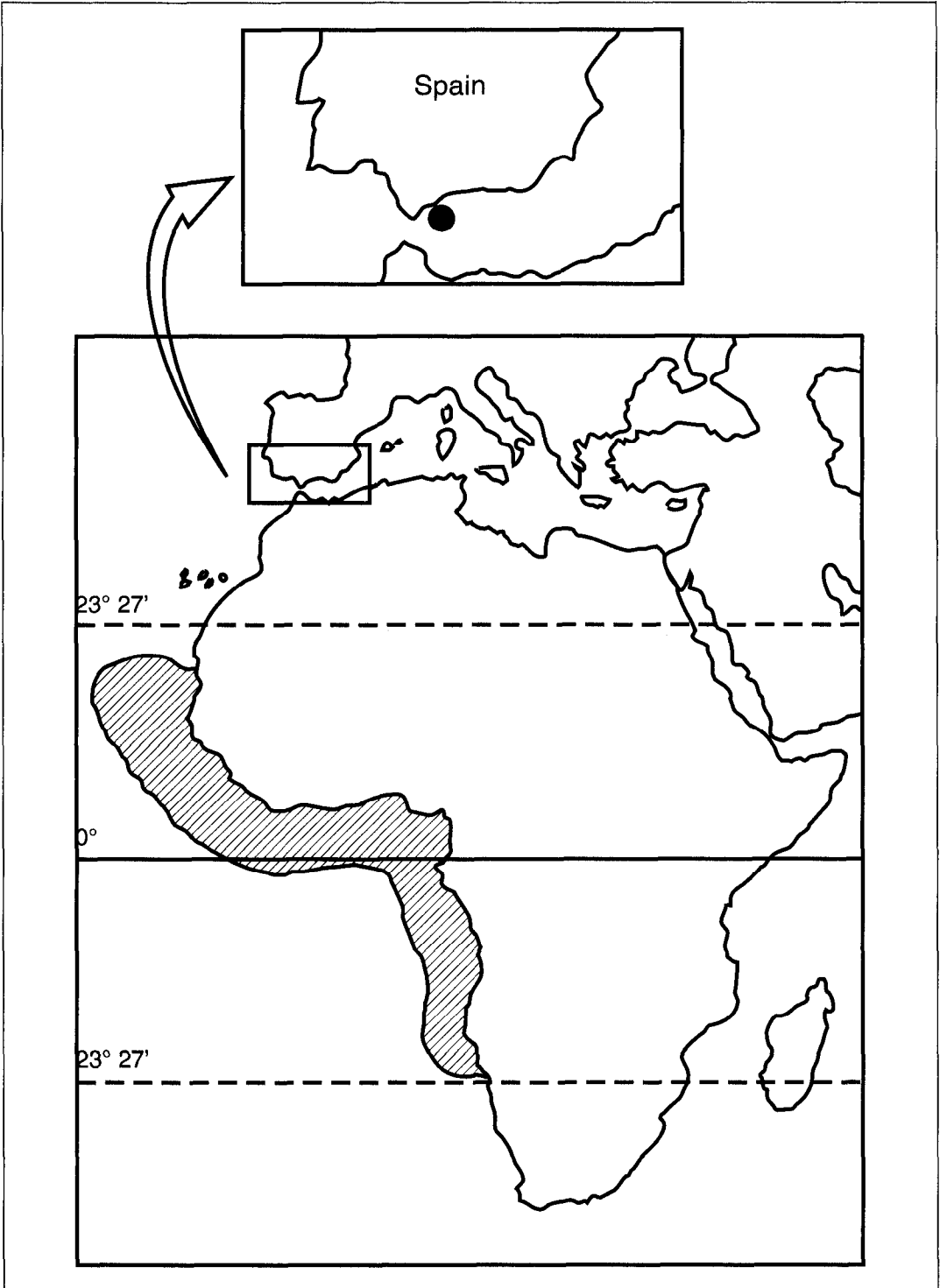


Figure 1. Geographical distribution of *Fistularia petimba* Lacepède, 1803 on the West African coast (compiled from Heemstra (1986) and Fritzsche (1990)) and first capture in Cadiz (southern Iberian Peninsula).

Tabla I. Morphometric characters (measurements in mm, and total weight in g); body proportions: % of standard length (% of SL), and % of head length (% of HL); and meristic characters (number) of the *Fistularia petimba* specimen captured on 23 June 1996.

Morphometric characters	Data	% of SL	% of HL
Total weight	950		
Total length	1240		
Standard length (SL)	1040		
Head length (HL)	365	35	
Head height	36		10
Snout length	264	21	72
Longitudinal ocular diameter	26		7
Vertical ocular diameter	16		4
Interorbital width	20		5
Upper maxilar length	39		11
Lower maxilar length	46		13
Body height	41	4	
Body width	45	4	
Predorsal length	851	82	
Base of dorsal fin	36	3	
Dorsal fin height	61		
Preanal length	849	82	
Base of anal fin	37	4	
Anal fin height	62		
Pectoral fin length	54		
Caudal fin length	57	5	
Caudal peduncle height	6	1	
Meristic characters			
Dorsal fin rays	15 soft rays		
Anal fin rays	15 soft rays		
Pectoral fin rays	15 soft rays		
Pelvic fin rays	6 soft rays		

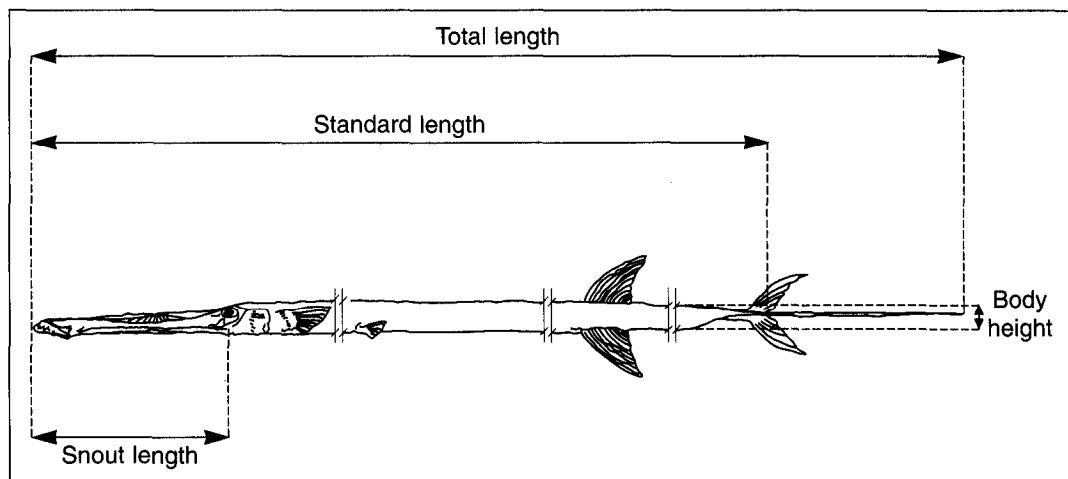


Figure 2. *Fistularia petimba* Lacepède, 1803 caught off the coast of Cadiz (southern Iberian Peninsula), showing certain meristic characters mentioned in table I (drawn by D. A. Berastegui and Carlos Colón).

This specimen was an adult 1 240 mm long. It was kept in formalin on the CICEM El Toruño. Morphometric and meristic characteristics are shown in table I and in figure 2. Dorsal fin rays: 15; anal fin rays: 15; pectoral fin rays: 15; pelvic fin rays: 6. Another noteworthy feature is the presence of imbricate bony plates in the zone prior to the dorsal and anal fin, which are not present in the similar species *Fistularia tabacaria* Linnaeus, 1758. The capture of this *Fistularia petimba* seems purely accidental.

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